



HAWAI'I NEI 2009 An art contest celebrating native species

Prospectus

Imagine a forest dripping with ferns, where metallic bird-calls echo through a dark and dense canopy stories overhead, while below, tiny snails make their way among broad and shiny green leaves. Imagine a silvery leafed sunflower whose fat purple flowers bloom only once in a dozen years or so while a snow-capped mountain keeps watch. Imagine vast plains of coal-black pahoehoe dotted with cool green islands harboring untold jewels of plants and animals.

This is Hawai'i Nei. Celebrate.

The Natural Area Reserves System, the Volcano Art Center Gallery, and the Three Mountain Alliance watershed partnership are proud to present the first juried art exhibition on the Island of Hawai'i celebrating our native flora and fauna. This exhibition is open to all residents of Hawai'i County, amateur and professional artists of all ages are encouraged to submit works of art celebrating the native plants, animals, and landscapes of our beloved island, our Hawai'i nei.

Eligibility

All residents of the Island of Hawai'i are eligible to participate. All works must be original (no prints or giclées please) and must not have been previously shown in any other exhibition, gallery, or website. Artwork in any medium or combination of media is welcome.

Subject

The main subject of your piece(s) must be a species native to the Island of Hawai'i. All species found from ridge to reef on the island are acceptable. Subjects from beyond the reef, including the deep ocean will not be accepted. Artwork featuring non-native species, including Polynesian introductions, will not be accepted. Cultural or human components in the piece are acceptable as long as they complement the major theme of native species.

If you have questions about whether your subject fits these parameters, contact Colleen Cole, art show coordinator, at tcolleencole@gmail.com or 333-7741.

How to submit

Fill out an entry form (available online or at Volcano Art Center) and drop it off with your artwork at the Niulani Campus of the Volcano Art Center in Volcano Village between 10 am and 3 pm on Friday, May 29 or Sunday, May 31 2009.

Entry Fees

Artists may enter more than one piece. A non-refundable fee for each entry will be collected at time of receiving (payable to Volcano Art Center). Entry fees are \$10 per piece submitted for adults; ~~\$5 per piece submitted for keiki (K-12 grades).~~

Entry fees waived for keiki (under 18)! We will, however, gratefully accept donations in any amount towards keiki entry fees.

Media

All art must be ready for hanging or installation, including attaching wire for framed pieces. Matted work without frames will not be accepted. Due to space limitation, pieces may not exceed 2'x3' in size.

Selection

Jurying will occur the week of June 1. Prior to jurying, NARS and TMA staff will determine if pieces qualify as subject matter native to the Island of Hawai'i. No exceptions will be made. Pieces not selected for exhibition will be available for pick-up at the Nialani on Friday, June 5 and Sunday, June 7 between the hours of 10 am and 1 pm. There are four divisions: adult, elementary school (grades K-5), middle school (grades 6-8), and high school (grades 9-12). Students do not need to be affiliated with a school to enter.

Sales

All selected adult entries are required to be for sale, keiki entries are not required for sale. If artwork is sold during the exhibition, the commission 45% to the artist, 45% to the Volcano Art Center, and 10% will go to support joint native species protection and management activities carried out by the Natural Area Reserves System and the Three Mountain Alliance watershed partnership.

You can donate your portion of the profits as a tax-deductible gift to the joint management activities of NARS and TMA. Contact Fia Mattice at the Volcano Art Center gallery for more information at 967-7511.

Opening

The exhibition will open on June 13. There will be a Keiki Reception for students and their families from 2 – 4 pm with light refreshments. A formal reception will follow in the evening from 5 pm to 7 pm. Winners will be announced and prizes awarded.

Prizes

Prizes will be awarded for all divisions. Prizes include dinner for two at Kilauea Lodge in Volcano, an eco-tour with Hawaii Forest and Trail, a family membership at 'Imiloa Astronomy Center, a membership to Volcano Art Center, and various gift certificates from local businesses.

Tips for Teachers

If you would like to involve your class in the Hawai'i Nei art contest here are some tips that might help.

- Consider having a contest within your class or school first, and then enter the winning pieces from your contest to compete with the entries from other schools and individuals.
- Invite a guest speaker from NARS or TMA to talk to your class about native Hawaiian species, ecology, or watersheds.
- Sign up your class for an art hike.

- Check to make sure your student's entries qualify. Birds, insects, plants or landscapes native to the island of Hawaii are OK. What's not OK are non-native species or Polynesian introductions.
- Entries must be display ready
- ~~Remember, entry fee is \$5 per artwork.~~ **Waived for 2009!**
- **New entry division for classes—work on one piece together as a group and submit under new "class" entry division**

Art Hikes

Experience native ecosystems first hand and sign up for one of the art hikes! Monthly art hikes will lead groups into natural areas across the islands.

- Saturday, March 7, 2009 – Laupāhoehoe Natural Area Reserve
- Sunday, April 5, 2009 – Pu'u Maka'ala Natural Area Reserve
- Saturday, May 2, 2009 – Ka'ū Preserve, The Nature Conservancy
- Saturday, May 9, 2009 – Kohala Mountain

Contact Colleen Cole for more information about art hikes. For all hikes, wear sturdy hiking shoes/boots, long pants, bring water and lunch, and be prepared for changing weather. Limited spaces available for each hike.

Native or Not (and why do we care?)

Hawaii is unique for its native species; you have probably heard that we have many species of plants and animals that are found nowhere else. Think about this, nowhere else on the planet! Millennia ago, a few hearty seeds and animals made it here and over time, they evolved into many different species, especially suited to the unique environment of our islands. How can you tell if your subject is native to the island of Hawaii? Contact Colleen Cole or check out some of the resources listed below for information and inspiration.

Information & Inspiration

There are several programs in the months leading up to the art contest to help you find inspiration and put you in touch with the native species and ecosystems of our island. Sign up for an art hike, take a class at the Volcano Art Center or utilize some of the resources on the web or in the bookstores,

Websites

[Native Hawaiian Plants](#)

A list of sites compiled by UH-Manoa

[Hawaiian Ecosystems at Risk](#)

Check here to see if your subject is native or not and check out great photos of many native species

[Hawai'i State Division of Forestry & Wildlife](#)

Resources for teachers, parents, and students.

[Hawai'i State Natural Area Reserves System](#)

Information about the Natural Area Reserves System

[Mālama Hawai'i](#)

A hui of over 70 organization dedicated to the care and protection of Hawai'i.

[Three Mountain Alliance watershed partnership](#)

Find out more about the partnerships of private, state, and federal landowners working together to protect our natural resources

Books

Check out the Hawaiiana or Natural History section of your local bookstore to find books about species native to Hawai'i. Here are a few with great photos and detailed information to get you started:

Wao Akua, Sacred Source of Life

Remains of a Rainbow

Hawai'i's Plants and Animals, Biological Sketches of Hawaii Volcanoes National Park

Places to go

Sign up for one of the monthly art hikes or try one of these places to experience the magic of our native ecosystems:

[Volcano Art Center](http://www.volcanoartcenter.org) (www.volcanoartcenter.org)

Volcano Art Center offers hikes, classes, and workshops each month focusing on native species

[Hawaii Volcanoes National Park](#) and [Pu'uuhonua o Hōnaunau National Historic Park](#)

Visit these island jewels of the National Park System and sign up for an interpretive hike, explore on your own, or stop by the Visitor Centers for more information

[Na Ala Hele Trails and Access System](#)

Find out about hiking trails on the island

For More Information

For questions about subject matter and art hikes, contact Colleen Cole, art contest coordinator at tcolleencole@gmail.com or (808) 333-7741. For questions about media and installation, contact Fia Mattice, gallery manager at (808) 967-7511. Or check out the website <http://www.volcanoartcenter.org>

Mahalo

Many, many thanks to Kat Lui who came up with the amazing idea of a native species art contest for Maui, the [Malama Wao Akua](#), and was a major source of inspiration, support, advice, and friendship for us while planning the first ever native species juried art show on the Big Island.

Special thanks to Caren Loebel-Fried who graciously donated her time and talent in designing the nēnē and 'ohelo logo for the art contest.

Who we are

Hawai'i 2009 is a collaboration among the Natural Area Reserves System (NARS), a program within the Hawai'i State Department of Land & Natural Resources, Division of Forestry & Wildlife, working to protect the best of

Hawai'i's native ecosystems; the Volcano Art Center (VAC), where people, art, and nature meet; and the Three Mountain Alliance watershed partnership (TMA), working across private, state, and federal lands to sustainably manage over 1 million acres for natural and cultural resources.